

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A safety-fastener to be secured by fastening, said fastener comprising at least a threaded tip having a hollow channel defined at least partly therein, a rod having a hollow channel defined at least partly therein, and a locking element housed at least partly within the hollow channel of the threaded tip and/or the hollow channel of the rod;

the threaded tip and rod being interconnected in a joint, the joint inhibiting axial movement of the rod relative to the threaded tip, and the joint allowing transmission of rotational movement from the rod to the threaded tip in one locked state and preventing transmission of rotational movement from the rod to the threaded tip in another unlocked state;

wherein the channel of the threaded tip is generally aligned with the channel of the rod at the joint such that the locking element can move within said channels between the threaded tip and the rod; and

wherein the joint is locked by the insertion of the locking element into the joint and into a rotationally locking engagement at least partly within the channel of the rod and at least partly within the channel of the threaded tip.

2. (Original) A safety-fastener according to claim 1, being adapted to allow reversible shifting between the locked and the unlocked state.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) A safety-fastener according to claim 1, wherein the rod comprises a gripping means extending in a direction opposite to the threaded tip for applying a torque to the rod.

5. (Previously Presented) A safety-fastener according to claim 1, wherein the locking element is accessible from a top portion of the rod opposite to the threaded tip so as to allow shifting between the locked and the unlocked state on a mounted safety-fastener.

6. (Previously Presented) A safety-fastener according to claim 1, wherein the joint is shifted from the locked to the unlocked state and vice versa by the removal of the locking element from the joint.

7. (Previously Presented) A safety-fastener according to claim 1, wherein the joint is shifted from the locked state to the unlocked state by irreversible breaking of the locking element within the joint.

8. (Original) A safety-fastener according to claim 7, wherein the locking element is adapted to break at a pre-specified torque.

9. (Previously Presented) A safety-fastener according to claim 1, adapted to allow reversible shifting between the locked and the unlocked state by displacement of the locking element in the axial direction of the fastener.

10. (Original) A safety-fastener according to claim 9, wherein the locking element is displaced in a direction from the rod towards the threaded part.

11. (Original) A safety-fastener according claim 9, wherein the locking element is displaced in a direction from the threaded part towards the rod.

12. (Previously Presented) A safety-fastener according to claim 1, wherein the threaded part contains at least threads.

13. (Previously Presented) A safety-fastener according to claim 1, wherein the length of the threaded part is at least 50% of the entire length of the safety-fastener.

14. (Previously Presented) A safety-fastener according to claim 1, wherein the rod is provided in the form of a hollow tube that houses the locking element.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) A safety-fastener according to claim 1, further comprising a handle member arranged to control the moving of the locking element from a top portion, opposite the threaded tip, of the rod.

17. (Previously Presented) A safety-fastener according to claim 1, further comprising fixating means allowing fixation of the locking element in any of the locked and/or unlocked states.

18. (Previously Presented) A safety-fastener according to claim 1, further comprising locking means adapted to receive a pad-lock for locking the locking element in either the locked and/or the unlocked states of the fastener.

19. (Previously Presented) A safety-fastener according to claim 1, wherein the rod comprises attachment means for securing peripheral objects to the fastener.

20. (Original) A safety-fastener according to claim 19, wherein said object is selected from a group consisting of: a beach safety-box as defined herein, a beach-chair as defined herein, a parasol, a bike, a motor cycle, a boat, an animal, a fishing rod, a gun, a sculpture, a lawnmower, a garden pot and a car.

21. (Previously Presented) A safety-fastener according to claim 1, wherein the joint is shifted between the locked and unlocked state by respectively removing and inserting the locking element into the safety-fastener.

22. (Previously Presented) A lock safety-fastener comprising:

a fastener; and

a lock;

wherein the fastener includes:

an insertion-region which can be used for attachment into a solid material; and

a lock-accepting region which protrudes from the solid material;

wherein the attachment and locking of the lock to the lock-accepting region allows the lock to rotate freely around the lock-accepting region in its locked state thereby significantly hindering the possibility for loosening the fastener; and

wherein the attachment of the lock to the lock-accepting region of the fastener includes inserting the lock-accepting region into the lock such that the lock substantially covers the lock-accepting region.

23. (Original) A lock safety-fastener according to claim 22, wherein the insertion-region of the fastener is threaded and wherein the lock-accepting region comprises a gripping means for applying torque to the fastener thereby enabling the fastener to be secured by screwing.

24. (Previously Presented) A lock safety-fastener according to claim 22, wherein the lock is constructed such that it

can be attached to the lock-accepting region of the fastener when unlocked,
cannot be detached from the lock-accepting region of the fastener when locked,
can rotate freely on the lock-accepting region of the fastener when locked, and
prevents the lock-accepting region of the fastener and the fastener-head to be accessed by gripping tools when locked.

25. (Original) A lock safety-fastener according to claim 24, wherein the lock is a code-lock.

26. (Original) A lock safety-fastener according to claim 25, wherein the lock comprising from 2-12 numbered discs.

27. (Previously Presented) A lock safety-fastener according to claim 25, wherein the user can program the lock.

28. (Previously Presented) The use of a lock safety-fastener according to claim 22, to secure objects against unauthorized removal.

29. (Previously Presented) A safety-fastener according to claim 1, wherein the joint is unlocked by movement of the locking element out of the joint and out of rotationally locking engagement with at least one of the rod and the threaded tip.

30. (Previously Presented) A safety-fastener according to claim 1, wherein the locking element frictionally engages the rod and the threaded tip at least partly within the channel of the rod and at least partly within the channel of the threaded tip to lock the joint.

31 (Currently Amended) A fastener comprising:

a body having threads extending at least partly around the body and a channel cavity extending at least partly through the body;

a head coupled to the body and having a channel extending at least partly through the head, the channel of the head being generally aligned with the channel of the body and including a cross-sectional shape substantially similar to a cross-sectional shape of the channel of the body;

a locking element positionable at least partly within the channel of the threaded tip and at least partly within the channel of the head;

wherein the head is coupled to the body at a joint that inhibits axial movement of the head relative to the body, the joint being configured to inhibit the body from moving either towards or away from the head, the joint allowing transmission of rotational movement from the head to the body in a locked state and inhibiting transmission of rotational movement from the head to the body in an unlocked state;

wherein the locking element is moveable within the channels of the body and the head to allow shifting of the joint between the locked state and the unlocked state;

wherein in the locked state of the joint the locking element is disposed at least partly within the channel of the body and at least partly within the channel of the head in engagement with both the body and the head so that rotational movement of the head is transmitted to the body, and wherein in the unlocked state of the joint the locking element is disposed out of engagement with at least one of the body and the head so that rotational movement of the head is not transmitted to the body.

32. (Previously Presented) A fastener according to claim 31, wherein in the unlocked state of the joint the locking element is disposed out of the channel of the head and substantially within the channel of the body.

33. (New) A safety-fastener according to claim 1, wherein the hollow channel is a cavity in the threaded tip.